

### **Remarks**

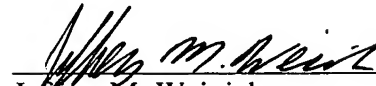
This is in response to the Office Action dated October 5, 2006. Claims 1-20 were presented for examination. The Examiner has allowed Claims 4, 6-9, and 11 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 12-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. Claims 16-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 1-3, 5, and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,226,636 (Abdel-Mottaleb et al.) and U.S. Patent 6,760,724 (Chakrabarti).

In order to expedite allowance of this application, Applicants have rewritten allowed claims 4, 6, and 7 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Original claim 8 is an independent claim. No other basis of rejection has been provided for claim 8. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 8 is allowable. Dependant claims 9-11 are also allowable as these claims depend on an allowable independent claim.

All remaining rejected claims (1-3, 5 and 12-20) have been cancelled. Applicants reserve the right to present the cancelled claims in one or more continuation applications.

Allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey M. Weinick  
Reg. No. 36,304  
Attorney for Applicants  
Tel.: 973-533-1616

Date: January 3, 2006  
**AT&T Corp.**  
**Room 2A-207**  
**One AT&T Way**  
**Bedminster, NJ 07921**